

REMARKS

Claims 3-16 remain pending in this application.

Claims 3, 10, 11 and 15 are now newly independent and have been amended to contain all the limitations of their canceled parent claims. These claims which have been found allowable by the examiner should now be in condition for allowance.

Claim 16 is now dependent on allowable Claim 3.

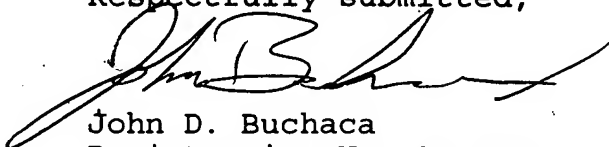
Claims 1, 2, 17, 18 and 20 have been canceled, applicant reserves the right to prosecute any of the canceled claims and any other broad claims addressed to the invention in any continuing applications.

Claim 14 has been amended to be newly independent, requiring all the limitations of its parent claim. No other changes have been made to Claim 14. The Examiner has rejected Claim 14 for lack of novelty in light of Newman U.S. Patent No. 4,120,401 indicating that "The face of the reel (30 and in Figures 3-5) is inherently capable of being a badge for the display of information either by having it glued thereto or written upon." However, Newman does not teach or suggest this feature, primarily because the reel of Newman is loaded in an obscure position between the display 14, the frame 12 and bottom wall 15. In such a hidden location there would be no point in having information printed or attached thereto. Therefore, Newman does not act to anticipate, nor make obvious, the invention as covered by existing Claim 14 but rather teaches against it.

No amendment to the claims has resulted in the changing or removal of features in response to the cited references. Therefore, the depending claims, upon issue, shall enjoy a full range of equivalents.

In light of the above, early allowance of the claims is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,



John D. Buchaca
Registration No. 37,289

1545 Hotel Circle South, Suite 150
San Diego, California 92108
Telephone: (619) 294-2922

1968AMT.418

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Box Non-Fee Amendment, Assistant Commissioner of Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on April 18, 2002 by John D. Buchaca, Reg. No. 37,289.

Signature:



Date:

4-18-02

ATTACHMENT 1

Marked Up Version of the Claims

1 3. (Once Amended) [The device of Claim 2,] A device for
2 locating an item packaged in a container among potentially
3 obscuring protective material, said device comprises:

4 an elongated flexible tether extractably loaded upon a
5 dispenser anchorable to said container;

6 wherein said tether comprises a first end connected to
7 a fastener attachable to said item;

8 wherein said dispenser comprises a stratified body
9 having a bottom adhesive layer and a top layer.

1 10. (Once Amended) (The method of Claim 1,) A device for
2 locating an item packaged in a container among potentially
3 obscuring protective material, said device comprises:

4 an elongated flexible tether extractably loaded upon a
5 dispenser anchorable to said container;

6 wherein said tether is separable into one or more
7 subtethers.

1 11. (Once Amended) [The device of Claim 2,] A device for
2 locating an item packaged in a container among potentially
3 obscuring protective material, said device comprises:

4 an elongated flexible tether extractably loaded upon a

5 dispenser anchorable to said container;

6 wherein said tether comprises a first end connected to a
7 fastener attachable to said item; and

8 wherein said fastener comprises a widened portion of
9 said tether into a sheet-like pad.

1 14. (Once Amended) [The device of Claim 1,] A device for
2 locating an item packaged in a container among potentially
3 obscuring protective material, said device comprises:

4 an elongated flexible tether extractably loaded upon a
5 dispenser anchorable to said container; and

6 wherein said dispenser further comprises a badge
7 adapted to carry item identification information.

1 15. (Once Amended) [The device of Claim 2,] A device for
2 locating an item packaged in a container among potentially
3 obscuring protective material, said device comprises:

4 an elongated flexible tether extractably loaded upon a
5 dispenser anchorable to said container;

6 wherein said tether comprises a first end connected to
7 a fastener attachable to said item; and

8 wherein said tether is adapted to carry an electrical
9 signal indicating connection of said fastener to said item.

1 16. (Once Amended) The device of [Claim 2,] Claim 3,

2 wherein said fastener is selected from the group consisting of:
2 a piece of sticky tape;
3 an amount of glue;
4 a rivet;
5 a staple;
6 complementary magnetic strips;
7 complementary hook-and-vane fasteners;
8 twist tie materials;
9 a clip; and
10 a sealable bag.